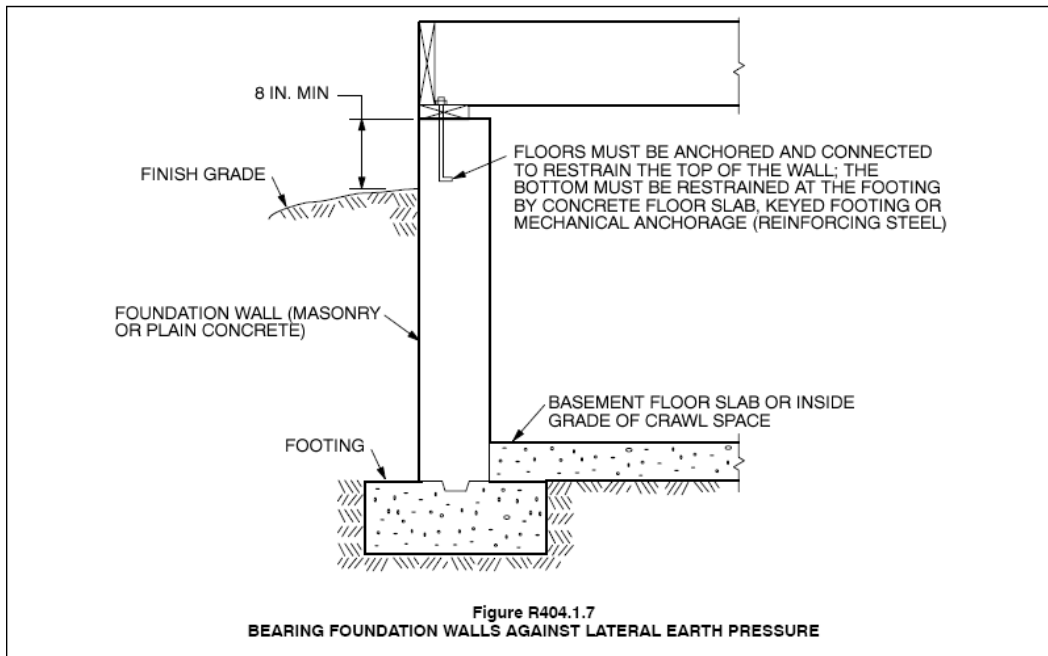




## **2012 IRC Code**

**R404.1.7 Backfill placement.** Backfill shall not be placed against the wall until the wall has sufficient strength and has been anchored to the floor above, or has been sufficiently braced to prevent damage by the backfill. **Exception:** Such bracing is not required for walls supporting less than 4 feet (1219 mm) of unbalanced backfill.



## ***Culpeper County Building Department***

### ***Backfill Policy***

**Building Official's comment:** The statement "sufficiently braced" is interpreted as a published proven method or an engineer's design that has an original seal and signature affixed to the seal. When a proven method or design is available the contractor/homeowner must submit to the Building Official of Culpeper County a request to utilize the method or design. The approved method or design will be stamped "approved" and signed by the Building Official.

The method or design may be of a generic nature providing it reflects the actual site conditions, i.e.: foundation wall thickness, wall height, reinforcement, concrete strength, soil conditions, height of unbalanced fill, etc.

**However, it must be noted that any failure of the method or system being used is the sole responsibility of the contractor/homeowner.**

*Note:* For "Mastered Plans" that meet the same general specification, the contractor must file a master of the method/design with the Building Department so the Plan Reviewer can annotate the plans accordingly and provide a copy to be attached to the county "Approved" sets.